

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/601,830

Examiner

Lars A. Olson

Applicant(s)

LITTLE, ROLLAND N.

Art Unit

3617

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the after-final amendment received from the applicant on September 21, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 7-20 and 24-32.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
  1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)           |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),<br>Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                              |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit<br>of Biological Material          | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance  |
|   | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

### Reasons for Allowance

1. An after-final amendment was received from the applicant on September 21, 2005.
2. Claims 4-6 and 21-23 have been canceled.
3. Claims 1-3, 7-20 and 24-32 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance. The solar-powered watercraft as claimed is not shown or suggested in the prior art because of the use of a watercraft that is comprised of a body with a deck, at least one pontoon that is disposed from said body, said pontoon having first and second sides, a forward terminal end toward which said sides taper and intersect at a forward terminal edge oriented perpendicular to said deck, an intermediate portion and an aft terminal end toward which said sides taper rearward and downward to intersect at an aft terminal edge oriented perpendicular to said deck, a canopy that is secured to said body and disposed over said deck, said canopy being operable to receive solar radiation, at least one battery pack that is secured to said pontoon, and a means for transferring energy from said solar reception means to said battery pack. The prior art also does not show or suggest the use of a pontoon for a watercraft, said pontoon being comprised of first and second sides, a forward section with a terminal end, an intermediate section, an aft section with a terminal end, and means for containing at least one battery pack secured to said intermediate section, where at said aft terminal end said sides taper rearward and downward to converge and intersect at an edge.

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5. The prior art as disclosed by Bartholomew (US 5,931,114) shows the use of a solar-powered watercraft that is comprised of a craft body with a deck, a canopy that is secured to said body and is disposed over said deck, a means for receiving solar radiation that is mounted to a top face of said canopy, at least one battery pack, and a means for transferring energy from said solar reception means to said battery pack. Oehler (US 5,016,558) discloses a boat having a body with a deck, a canopy with a headliner that is secured to said body and is disposed over said deck, and a pair of pontoons that are secured to said body. De Leu (US 6,000,353) discloses a solar-powered watercraft that includes at least one battery pack that is secured to a pontoon, a means for receiving solar radiation, a means for transferring energy from said solar reception means to said battery pack, and a control console, where said pontoon has a forward section with a terminal end, an intermediate section, and an aft section with a terminal end having a rearward and downward taper. Carr (US 3,090,339) discloses a pontoon that is comprised of first and second sides, a forward terminal end, an intermediate portion, and an aft terminal end, where said side surfaces taper and intersect at a forward terminal edge, and also taper and intersect at an aft terminal edge, said terminal edges being oriented perpendicular to a deck of a watercraft. However, none of the prior art cited shows or suggests the use of a solar-powered watercraft that is comprised of a body with a deck, at least one pontoon that is disposed from said body, said pontoon having first and second sides, a forward terminal end toward which said sides taper and intersect at a forward terminal edge oriented perpendicular to said deck, an intermediate portion and an aft terminal end toward

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which said sides taper rearward and downward to intersect at an aft terminal edge oriented perpendicular to said deck, a canopy that is secured to said body and disposed over said deck, said canopy being operable to receive solar radiation, at least one battery pack that is secured to said pontoon, and a means for transferring energy from said solar reception means to said battery pack. The prior art also does not show or suggest the use of a pontoon for a watercraft, said pontoon being comprised of first and second sides, a forward section with a terminal end, an intermediate section, an aft section with a terminal end, and means for containing at least one battery pack secured to said intermediate section, where at said aft terminal end said sides taper rearward and downward to converge and intersect at an edge.

### ***Conclusion***

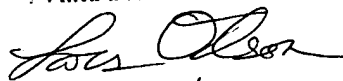
6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication from the examiner should be directed to Exr. Lars Olson whose telephone number is (571) 272-6685.

lo

October 3, 2005

LARS A. OLSON  
PRIMARY EXAMINER

  
10/3/05